

2023 EARTH MONTH EDITION



Mayor DiMaria's Water Conservation Challenge

I am once again challenging residents to help reduce Morton Grove's environmental footprint by participating in the 2023 Wyland Foundation's Annual National Mayor's Challenge for Water Conservation. The Mayor's Challenge involves residents making an online pledge to conserve water, energy and other natural resources. Participants can win having their utility bills paid for one year, up to \$3,000, and hundreds of eco-friendly prizes. In 2022, Morton Grove ranked 4th nationally for communities with 5,000 to 29,999 residents. Let's work together to be the most "water-wise" community in the country in 2023. Take the pledge at mywaterpledge.com. Remember, your efforts today will create a better planet tomorrow!

 **Your Mayor, Dan DiMaria**



**PLEDGE FOR A CHANCE TO WIN
YOUR UTILITY BILLS PAID
FOR ONE YEAR, UP TO \$3,000**

PLUS OTHER GREAT PRIZES!



**Take the 2023 Mayor's
Water Conservation Challenge**

April 1-30

MYWATERPLEDGE.COM

Spread the word on easy ways to save water and
help Morton Grove WIN

TAKE THE PLEDGE TODAY!



50/50

TREE PLANTING PROGRAM

Morton Grove is once again offering residents an opportunity to participate in the Village's 50/50 Tree Planting Program. Under the program, residents can select the type of tree they would like to be planted in their adjacent parkway by paying 50% of the cost. The Village of Morton Grove will pay the other 50% of the cost. This year, the cost for the resident is \$60.00 per tree.

To take part in the 50/50 Tree Planting Program, fill out the form available at mortongroveil.org. Drop the completed form and a check payable to the Village of Morton Grove at Village Hall (6101 Capulina Avenue). This is a first come, first served program and certain species will go quickly.

The deadline for applying to participate in the 2023 50/50 Tree Planting Program is **April 15, 2023**.
The Village plans to plant all trees in May 2023.

In This Issue

Electronics Recycling Event..... Page 2
2023 Tree Walk Page 2
Arbor Day Celebration Page 2
Crayon & Marker Recycling Program Page 3

2023 Sustainability Expo Page 3
Know What to Throw Quiz..... Page 4
Reduce, Reuse & Recycle Guide Page 5
Public Project Updates Page 7



Morton Grove 2023 Tree Walk

Saturday, June 10, 2023 | 10:00 AM

Morton Grove Village Hall | 6101 Capulina Avenue

The Village invites you to an educational tree walk guided by the Village Arborist. The walk will start at Village Hall and follow a one-mile accessible route. The first 25 participants to sign up or arrive on-site will receive a free giveaway. RSVP at commdev@mortongroveil.org or 847-663-3063. An RSVP is not required to attend. In the event of inclement weather, the tree walk will be rescheduled to Saturday, June 17, 2023.

2023 Arbor Day Celebration

April 28, 2023 | 11:00 a.m.

Park View Elementary School | 6200 Lake Street

National Arbor Day is celebrated on the last Friday in April.

Every year, a Morton Grove school is selected to host the Village's Arbor Day Celebration. Village Arborist Dave Hoffman plants a tree at the school to commemorate the day and students receive educational materials on the importance of trees. Residents are welcome to attend the Arbor Day tree planting ceremony. Visit mortongroveil.org for more event information closer to the date.



SAVE THE DATE Community Clean-Up Event

**SATURDAY
MAY 20, 2023**

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Civic Center - 6140 Dempster

The Village is pleased to announce its first Community Clean-Up Event. Meet at the Morton Grove Civic Center at 9:00 a.m. to check in and pick up bags, safety vests, and a map of pre-selected clean-up sites. Reconvene at the Civic Center at 11:30 a.m. to enjoy a clean-up celebration with certificates for participating kids. Food will be provided. Visit mortongroveil.org for more information.

Electronics Recycling & Document Destruction Event

Saturday, May 13, 2023 | 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | Morton Grove Public Works | 7840 Nagle Avenue

All residents of Morton Grove and other Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) communities are eligible to participate in this free electronics and document destruction event. IDs will be checked for proof of residency. Visit SWANCC's website at www.swancc.org or call 847-724-9205 for details, including other drop-off locations and dates.

- Place recyclable items in your car trunk prior to arrival.
- Drive up, open trunk with items and remain in your vehicle.
- Your items will be removed from your car.
- As a courtesy, please remove electronics from plastic packaging and boxes prior to the SWANCC event.
- Before document destruction, remove metal clips, plastic sleeves, folders, and binders (small staples acceptable).

Acceptable Items: Cable receivers, cell phones, computer monitors, computers, fax machines, keyboards, mice, MP3 players, printers, televisions, satellite receivers, scanners, video game consoles, video recorders/players, and zip drives.

DO NOT bring: Dehumidifiers, humidifiers, air conditioners, vacuum cleaners, refrigerators, other large home appliances, paper in plastic bags, photos, slides, or any non-paper item. Do NOT include magazines, greeting cards or newspapers, as they can be recycled curbside.

SWANCC also provides a variety of other drop-off locations to assist residents with the task of recycling sensitive documents, electronics and other items, diverting them from landfills throughout the year. Visit www.swancc.org for details.



DON'T TRASH IT, SMASH IT!

— MORTON GROVE —
PUMPKIN SMASH
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

— 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M. —

🍁 NORTH END OF HARRER PARK 🍁

GREEN YOUR HALLOWEEN

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2023

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

MORTON GROVE CIVIC CENTER
6140 DEMPSTER STREET

FREE ADMISSION

MORTON GROVE
**SUSTAINABILITY
EXPO**
2023

electric car show • green & zero-waste product vendors
energy efficiency • renewable energy
composting • waste reduction • recycling
native plantings • organic lawn care • urban tree canopy
stormwater management • conservation



2023 Crayon & Marker Recycling Program

After a successful 2022 crayon-collection program, the Village is launching the 2023 Crayon & Marker Recycling Program! Crayons and markers are petroleum and plastic products that take many years to break down in landfills. Every year, up to 75,000 pounds of broken crayons are thrown away across the country. Crayola alone manufactures 465 million markers annually.

In an effort to redirect this material from landfills, the Village is pleased to offer its Crayon & Marker Recycling Program. The Village will collect used markers and crayons and send them to SCARCE for recycling.

Bring your crayons and markers to one of our drop-off locations. You can help prep the crayons for recycling by removing their paper wrappers prior to drop-off. Thank you for your efforts to keep crayons and markers out of landfills!



Crayon & Marker Drop-Off

April 1 - June 30, 2023

Morton Grove Village Hall | 6101 Capulina Avenue
Morton Grove Public Library | 6140 Lincoln Avenue



KNOW WHAT TO THROW

QUIZ

True or False?

Answers:

- FALSE.** Once shredded paper is mixed with the other recyclables in the truck, it clings to the other items and is impossible to separate and collect. Also, a sheet of paper can be recycled 5-7 times. But once paper is shredded, its lifecycle is dramatically shortened. Use shredded paper as compost for your garden instead.
- TRUE.**
- FALSE.** Putting cooking oil and grease down the sink will clogs sewage drains, contaminate the water supply and eventually block your pipes or cause damage to sanitation pipes.
- TRUE.** Glossy magazines can be placed in your recycling cart. No need to remove stickers or inserts.
- FALSE.** Do not "bag" recyclables using plastic bags. Recyclables should be emptied, cleaned, and placed in the recycling cart loose.

1. Shredded paper should be placed in your recycling cart.	<input type="checkbox"/> True <input type="checkbox"/> False
2. Empty aerosol cans can be placed in the recycling cart.	<input type="checkbox"/> True <input type="checkbox"/> False
3. It's OK to pour grease and oil down the kitchen sink.	<input type="checkbox"/> True <input type="checkbox"/> False
4. Glossy magazines can be placed in your recycling cart.	<input type="checkbox"/> True <input type="checkbox"/> False
5. Recyclables can be placed in plastic bags in recycling carts.	<input type="checkbox"/> True <input type="checkbox"/> False

Recycling in Morton Grove

Groot Recycling and Waste Services, Inc., is under contract with the Village to provide recycling, and landscape waste collection services to Morton Grove residents along with standard refuse collection. Residents east of the North Branch of the Chicago River are serviced on Tuesdays and residents west of the river are serviced on Wednesdays. All solid waste (refuse, recycling and landscape waste) must be ready for collection no later than 6:00 a.m. The following table provides 2023 collection scheduling changes for holidays observed by Groot. Call Groot at 800-244-1977 or visit groot.com/waste-management-chicago/village-of-morton-grove for more information or to request a special service.

Holiday Observed	2023 Holiday Date	Regular Pick-Up	Holiday Pick-Up
Memorial Day	MON 5/29	TUE	WED 5/31
		WED	THU 6/1
4th of July	TUE 7/4	TUE	WED 7/5
		WED	THU 7/6
Labor Day	MON 9/4	TUE	WED 9/6
		WED	THU 9/7
Christmas Day	MON 12/25	TUE	WED 12/27
		WED	THU 12/28

Composting Made Easy

From March 15 through December 15 of each year, residents may participate in food waste composting by subscribing to the 95- or 65-gallon Landscape Waste/Food Scrap Cart Subscription Program offered by Groot. The 95-gallon container costs \$169.74 per season and the 65-gallon container costs \$148.53 per season. Any bag or bundle placed outside of the cart will require a prepaid sticker to be affixed to each item. Food scraps can only be placed in the container provided by Groot.

The Village also offers a residential and commercial food scrap collection program to Morton Grove residents and businesses through Collective Resource Compost (CRC). Through CRC, residents have the option of using 5-gallon lidded buckets or 32-gallon bagged totes to compost either on their own or communally. CRC collects year-round and has a longer list of acceptable items than Groot. CRC also offers the Winter Gap Program, which enables Morton Grove Landscape Waste/Food Scrap Cart users to continue composting during the off-season. For the most current service options and pricing offered by CRC, visit collectiveresource.us/composting-in-morton-grove.

ACCEPTED FOR RECYCLING

PAPER

- Newspapers and magazines
- Paper mail
- Office paper
- Plain greeting cards
- Cardboard tubes for rolled paper products
- Cardboard boxes (flattened and tape removed)
- Paper bags
- Milk, juice, beverage and broth cartons (with cap on)
- Pizza boxes without food residue



PLASTIC

- Plastic bottles, jugs and food-related jars and tubs (reattach lids, labels can remain)



GLASS

- Food and beverage jars and bottles of all colors (reattach metal lids that are 3 inches or more in diameter, labels can remain)

METAL

- Aluminum cans (may be crushed)
- Clean foil and pie pans
- Steel cans
- Empty aerosol cans



Remember, curbside recyclables must be empty, clean, loose and dry. Rinse all food and beverage residue. Do not put recyclables in a plastic bag. All materials may be mixed together in the recycling cart.

NOT ACCEPTED FOR RECYCLING

PAPER

- Shredded paper
- Pizza boxes with food residue
- Wet cardboard or paper
- Tissue and toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Disposable paper plates and cups



PLASTIC

- Plastic straws
- Plastic bags and wrap
- Bubble wrap
- Styrofoam, including cups, cutlery, clam shells and packaging blocks



GLASS

- Window glass
- Mirrors
- Flower vases



- Coffee cups
- Glassware
- Pottery
- Light bulbs

OTHER

- Electronics
- Appliances
- Sharps & medications
- Food
- Liquids
- Diapers
- Clothing & textiles
- Shoes
- Hoses
- Wire
- Hangers
- Extension cords
- Hazardous waste
- Propane & helium tanks



WHERE CAN I RECYCLE THIS?

BATTERIES (LITHIUM/RECHARGEABLE)

- Home Depot (8650 Dempster St.)
- Milwaukee Factory Services (6310 Gross Point Rd.)
- Lowe's (3601 Touhy Ave.)
- Batteries Plus Bulbs (5708 Touhy Ave.)

COMPACT FLUORESCENT LIGHT BULBS (CFLS)

- Morton Grove Village Hall (6101 Capulina Ave.)

EYEGLASSES

- Morton Grove Village Hall (6101 Capulina Ave.)

HOLIDAY LIGHTS

- Morton Grove Village Hall (6101 Capulina Ave., seasonal)

MERCURY THERMOMETERS

- Morton Grove Village Hall (6101 Capulina Ave.)

SHARPS & MEDICATIONS

- Morton Grove Civic Center (6140 Dempster St.)
- Morton Grove Fire Station 4 (6250 Lincoln Ave.)

THERMOSTATS

- Morton Grove Village Hall (6101 Capulina Ave.)

ORGANICS RECYCLING (COMPOSTING)

GROOT FOOD SCRAP CART

ACCEPTED

- Fruits
- Vegetables
- Bread
- Grains
- Pasta
- Cereal
- Non-liquid dairy
- Eggshells
- Coffee grounds
- Tea leaves



NOT ACCEPTED

- Coffee filters
- Tea bags
- Meat
- Poultry
- Seafood
- Paper products
- Plastic products
- Pet litter & waste
- Liquids
- Grease & oil
- Diapers



COLLECTIVE RESOURCE COMPOST

ACCEPTED

- Fruits
- Vegetables
- Bread
- Grains
- Pasta
- Cereal
- Eggs & eggshells
- Coffee grounds & filters
- Tea leaves & tea bags
- Meat
- Poultry
- Seafood
- Bones
- Dairy
- Liquid foods
- Nuts
- Spices, oils & fats
- Wax paper

- Compostable disposables
- Food-soiled cardboard
- Paper products
- Wood products
- Wax paper
- 100% cotton clothing
- Fur & hair
- Cold ashes

NOT ACCEPTED

- Plastic products
- Diapers
- Pet litter & waste
- Large quantities of liquids



REDUCE & REUSE

REDUCE YOUR CONSUMPTION

- Only buy what you plan to eat or use.
- Eat leftovers.
- Decline single-use disposable items.
- Bring your own reusable bags, water bottles, cutlery, and mugs.
- Buy durable items that last longer.
- Cook with whole, unpackaged foods.
- Grow your own food.
- Replaced packaged drinks with tap water.
- Use bar soaps and shampoos.
- Sign up for paperless billing.
- Opt-out of junk mail.
- Make your own home cleaning products.
- Buy less and save money!

REUSE WHAT'S AVAILABLE

- Buy items second-hand.
- Switch from disposable to reusable items.
- Repair items when damaged. Learn to sew!
- Start a swap with friends or coworkers for books, clothing, or games.
- Borrow books and media items from the Morton Grove Public Library.
- Donate usable clothing, appliances, furniture, and other items to nonprofits or thrift stores.
- Start seedlings in old egg cartons.
- Use glass jars to store food and organize household items.
- Cut old clothing and towels into small squares and use as rags.
- Use old newspapers for packing fragile items.
- Use old toothbrushes to clean shoes and tile.



- Groot collections are on Tuesdays for households east of the Chicago River and Wednesdays for households west of the river.
- Materials that exceed cart capacity may be placed in paper bags and placed beside the cart.
- Place only approved items in the recycling cart. The collector is trained to check the contents of the cart. If there are foreign materials present, the cart will be left with a notice.
- Contact Groot at 800-244-1977 to replace a damaged or lost cart.
- Electronics recycling is provided by the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC). For a list of accepted materials and for current drop-off locations, dates, and times, visit swancc.org/recycling-directory/electronics-recycling.





Public Project Updates



Morton Grove Metra Station

The Village and RM Swanson Architects are working closely with Metra to finalize architectural design and engineering to support a full reconstruction of the Morton Grove Metra station at 8501 Lehigh Avenue. The existing station was constructed in the 1970s and last updated in the 1980s. The new station is being designed in a Craftsman style, a timeless American architectural style that is reflective of our relaxed and close-knit Morton Grove community.

The Village is proposing to locate the new station north of the existing station footprint to improve site access, circulation, and visibility. The station will include 1,280 square feet of interior floor space and feature waiting areas, a retail space with interior and exterior service windows, and a restroom. A heated waiting area will be accessible to commuters after-hours. The parking lot will be reconfigured to improve circulation and maximize the number of parking stalls. New landscape areas will be provided around the site's perimeter and throughout the parking lot.

The Village plans to complete construction of the new Metra station in 2024. Investment in public transit infrastructure encourages ridership, supports local businesses and families, and reduces the community's environmental impact.

Pulse Stations to Be Installed in 2023

Pace will begin construction of the five planned Dempster Street Pulse bus rapid transit stations in Spring 2023. The Pulse Dempster Line will complement Pace's existing Route 250 service by providing faster and more frequent service to popular destinations along the Dempster Street corridor. Morton Grove Pulse stations are planned at Dempster and Harlem, Waukegan and Austin. These sites were strategically selected to serve current Pace customers. The Pulse Dempster Line stations will be located roughly every half mile between Evanston and O'Hare International Airport. Riders will enjoy limited stops, new buses with free Wi-Fi, modernized stations with heated shelters, real-time bus tracking information and improved ADA accessibility with raised platforms at all stations.

Oakton Street Multi-Use Path to be Constructed in 2023

The construction of a multi-use path along the south side of Oakton Street from Caldwell Avenue to Gross Point Road is planned to begin in Spring 2023. The project will provide a safe, off-street path for walkers, runners, and cyclists. The Village has secured more than \$2 million in grant funding to support the multi-jurisdictional project which was developed in partnership with Skokie and Niles. The path will provide a major connection in Morton Grove's improving bicycle and pedestrian network.

Morton Grove Gateway Plaza

In 2023, the Village will construct a new public plaza on the Village-owned property at Lincoln and Ferris Avenues. Currently an underused grassy knoll, this "gateway" to the Village will be known as the Gateway Plaza. Featuring lush landscape areas, benches, and bike racks, the plaza will offer residents and commuters a quiet and convenient place to relax, read and meet with friends.

The Village plans to include native and pollinator plant species in the plaza's multiple landscape areas and install educational signage. With opportunities for future installations and improvements, the Gateway Plaza was designed so that it can evolve with the community.



The Exchange

www.mortongroveil.org

Village Hall Hours: Monday - Friday
8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Village Phone Numbers

Police, Fire or Medical Emergency
9-1-1

Fire Administration
847-470-5226

Police Administration
847-470-5200

Public Works
847-470-5235

Senior Hotline
847-663-3070

VILLAGE FACILITIES

Village Hall (Switchboard)
847-965-4100

Village Administrator
847-470-5220

Building & Inspectional Services
847-663-3040

Community & Economic Development
847-663-3063

Village Officials

President Daniel P. DiMaria

Village Clerk Eileen Scanlon Harford

Trustees

Saba Khan | Rita Minx | Ashur Shiba
John Thill | Connie Travis | Janine Witko

Village Administrator
Ralph E. Czerwinski

Village Attorney
Teresa Hoffman Liston



Incredibly Close ✿ Amazingly Open

Morton Grove Exchange
The Village of Morton Grove
6101 Capulina Avenue
Morton Grove, IL 60053-2985

BULK RATE
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 22
Morton Grove IL
60053

TO: POSTAL CUSTOMER
MORTON GROVE, IL 60053



Free ComEd Energy Assessment

ComEd customers can reduce energy usage with a free energy assessment that includes free and discounted products for your home. ComEd offers either an in-home or virtual home energy assessment. Residents can schedule an assessment by calling 855-433-2700 or visiting eesavings.com.

A **virtual home assessment** is a free virtual inspection of your home for energy-saving opportunities using video sharing software. The assessment will include a personalized report and delivery of free energy-saving products.

An **in-home energy assessment** is a free in-person inspection of your home for energy-saving opportunities. The assessment will include a personalized report and installation of free energy-saving products.



Community Garage Sale

Friday, June 9 - Sunday, June 11

Mark your calendars for the Village's annual Community Garage Sale to be held Friday, June 9, through Sunday, June 11, 2023. This is a great opportunity to find local treasures around Morton Grove and clear out a few treasures of your own.

Buying and selling items second-hand is a great way to keep products out of landfills and save money. Check mortongroveil.org for more information and to register closer to the date

Water Sprinkler Reminder

The Village restricts lawn sprinkling from May 15 to September 15. Sprinkling is allowed daily ONLY during the following hours:

5:00 - 11:00 a.m. & 6:00 - 11:00 p.m.

Restrictions apply to all residential, commercial and industrial properties, but do not apply to hand-held sprinkling hoses.